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1. DOMINICANS FOR JUSTICE AND PEACE (Order of Preachers) (Special Consultative Status granted in 2002)

PART I: Introduction

The aims and purposes of Dominicans for Justice and Peace (Order of Preachers) have been: to raise awareness and to provide information from the field around issues of human rights violations and on the promotion and protection of human rights, especially at the annual sessions of the Commission on Human Rights and the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, focusing on the rights of minorities, religious freedom, peace, women's rights, children's rights, the death penalty, racial discrimination, administration of justice, displaced persons, the right to development, the rights of indigenous people and human trafficking; to support the work and activities of the International Commission of Justice and Peace of the Order of Preachers at the United Nations; to promote training and education for its members around questions of human rights, and the United Nations human rights system; to work collaboratively with other Non-Governmental Organizations that are involved in justice, peace, and human rights issues at the United Nations, in advocating for the respect of the fundamental rights and freedoms of the people whom we accompany worldwide.

PART II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Dominicans for Justice and Peace (Order of Preachers) has made oral and written statements at the annual sessions of the Commission on Human Rights, in March-April, March-April, 2003, March-April, 2004 and March-April, 2005, in Geneva, as well as at the annual sessions of the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in July-August, 2002, July-August, 2003, July-August, 2004 and July-August, 2005, in Geneva. In our statements, we have provided information and dealt with the issues of: religious discrimination and religious intolerance, indigenous rights, the humanitarian impact of the use of sanctions, rights of the child, the human rights of women, displaced persons, the right to development, economic, social and cultural rights, impunity, discrimination in the administration of justice, the death penalty, racial discrimination and the trafficking of human persons.

Through our ongoing presence in Geneva, Dominicans for Justice and Peace (Order of Preachers) has been able them to follow and to participate in meetings of United Nations bodies such as the Commission on Human Rights and the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights. It allows us to take prompt action at the United Nations and to advocate on behalf of victims of violations that are raised by our members who work in the regions. Our organization also provides counsel and information concerning human rights situations on the ground to member state delegations present in Geneva.

Our organization hosts and gives orientation sessions at the United Nations in Geneva to its members, organizes meetings and sessions in Geneva with United Nations staff and with member delegations at the Commission on Human Rights and the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights.

Our organization collaborates with other NGOs in the preparation of oral and written statements for presentation at the annual sessions of the Commission on Human Rights and the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights.

Dominicans for Justice and Peace (Order of Preachers) also collates information from our members in the field on human rights issues such as the right to development, religious tolerance, indigenous rights and the administration of the death penalty. We have published annual reports on our activities at the United Nations in 2002, 2003, 2004 and 2005; and, we have distributed United Nations information and documents to our members for use by them in educational and other institutions in their regions.

Dominicans for Justice and Peace (Order of Preachers) has provided first-hand information at the annual sessions of the Commission on Human Rights and the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, on the basis of the work and the involvement of our members, our contacts worldwide and through the various institutions and local and national organizations with whom we are in contact.

Dominicans for Justice and Peace (Order of Preachers) has published annual newsletters (2002; 2003; 2004 and 2005), on information concerning their participation at the UN, especially the sessions of the Commission on Human Rights, the Sub-Commission on Promotion and Protection of Human Rights.

Dominicans for Justice and Peace (Order of Preachers), in collaboration with Franciscans International, has prepared an annual Human Rights Handbook for the use of the members of our delegations for the 58th, 59th, 60th and 61st sessions of the Commission on Human Rights. The booklets describe the United Nations system, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and other United Nations bodies charged with the promotion and protection of Human Rights.

Furthermore, members of Dominicans for Justice and Peace (Order of Preachers) are involved in promoting activities related to the United Nations in their respective geographic regions: Africa, Asia-Pacific, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, and North America. Members of Dominicans for Justice and Peace (Order of Preachers) have given presentations and workshops on the United Nations and on the human rights system in their regions.

Dominicans for Justice and Peace (Order of Preachers) has brought to the attention of its constituency, through training sessions and distribution of publications, the various United Nations mechanisms such as treaty bodies, special rapporteurs, special representatives and independent experts.

Members of Dominicans for Justice and Peace (Order of Preachers) have attended and participated in the following sessions of the Commission on Human Rights and the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, in Geneva:

54th session of the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, in Geneva, July-August 2002;

59th session of the Commission on Human Rights, in Geneva, March-April 2003;

55th session of the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, in Geneva, March-April 2003;

60th session of the Commission on Human Rights, in Geneva, March-April 2004;

56th session of the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, in Geneva, March-April, 2004;

61st session of the Commission on Human Rights, in Geneva, March-April 2005;

57th session of the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, in Geneva, in July-August 2005.

The nature of the participation of Dominicans for Justice and Peace (Order of Preachers) in the above-mentioned meetings in 2002, 2003, 2004 and 2005 consisted in presenting both written and oral statements, in its own name and in co-sponsorship with other NGOs; organizing briefing sessions on issues in collaboration with other Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs); advocating on behalf of victims of violations; participating in sessions organized by the Bureau of the Commission on Human Rights and the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights; attending meetings organized by member state delegations, briefing delegations on issues of interest to our members; and, hosting and briefing members of our organization present at the meetings.

Dominicans for Justice and Peace (Order of Preachers), in collaboration with Franciscans International and other NGOs, has sponsored during the period covered by this report, seminars and meetings at the Palais des Nations, in Geneva on the following issues: the right to development, trafficking of human persons, and the rights of indigenous persons. Our organization has also provided information on the activities of the United Nations in various fields to its members through newsletters, our web site at www.un.op.org, speaking engagements to various groups and at public meetings. We have posted on our web site important statements of the High Commissioner of Human Rights, the United Nations Secretary-General and reports from various treaty bodies or other institutions of the United Nations. We also have made use of other web sites and newsletters of organizations that have an interest in our activities at the United Nations. Furthermore, we have conducted, in collaboration with Franciscans International, briefing and training sessions on trafficking, the right to development and the UN human rights instruments and mechanisms.

Dominicans for Justice and Peace (Order of Preachers) has assisted in making arrangements for its members to attend meetings of and to present information to treaty bodies such as the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and the Committee on economic, social and cultural rights.

Dominicans for Justice and Peace (Order of Preachers) has attended and participated in the following sessions of the Social Forum (Inter-Sessional Forum on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights), organized by the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, in Geneva: Social Forum (Inter-Sessional Forum on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights), in July-August 2004, during the July-August 2004 session of the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, in Geneva.

Social Forum (Inter-Sessional Forum on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights), in July-August 2005, during the 2005 session of the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, in Geneva.

We have also participated in the briefing sessions sponsored by the bureau of the Commission on Human Rights: members of our delegations have attended the briefing sessions with the Bureau of the Commission on Human Rights at the Palais des Nations, in Geneva, organized by secretariat, at the 2002, 2003, 2004 and 2005 sessions of the Commission on Human Rights, at the Palais des Nations, in Geneva.

Members of Dominicans for Justice and Peace (Order of Preachers) have also participated in the September 2003 annual meeting of the Department of Public Information for Non-governmental organizations, in New York.

Dominicans for Justice and Peace (Order of Preachers), has endorsed the Millennium Development Goals as part of their work plan for 2006-2008. Members decided to concentrate on Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger (with a focus on economic inequalities) and on Goal 10: Ensure environmental sustainability (with a focus on the vulnerability of the ecological systems of the world).

2. INDONESIAN CHILD WELFARE FOUNDATION

(Special Consultative Status granted in 2002)

1. Introductory

The Indonesian Child Welfare Foundation was established on 17 July 1979, inspired by the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of the Child. The foundation has made all the effort to raise community awareness of child's rights to survive, grow, and to develop towards an individual with human dignity.

Our vision is to build Indonesian children into strong, quality, and forward-looking citizens towards a prosperous and independent Indonesian society.

Our mission is to improve the quality and the welfare of Indonesian children by increasing public awareness, knowledge and capacity to develop their potential in accordance with their rights and the creation of an environment that provides opportunities, support, freedom, and protection for the full mental, physical, moral, spiritual, and social development of Indonesian children.

Branches of The Indonesian Child Welfare Foundation : 19 Cities – Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam, North Sumatera, Riau, Jambi, West Sumatera, South Sumatera, Bengkulu, Jakarta, Cental Java, East Java, Bali, West Nusatenggara, West Kalimantan, East Kalimantan, Central Sulawesi, South Sulawesi, Gorontalo, North Bengkulu, Indramayu

Funding Sources :

Corporate : Indonesia Bank, Mandiri Bank, Niaga Bank, Bali Bank, HSBC, Du Pont, McDonald, Indofood Sukses Makmur, DuPont, Aqua-Danone, Visa International, Freeport, Allianz Insurance, Manulife Insurance, Kalbe Farma, Total FinaElf, Agung Automal, CV Colruyt (Belgium Company), Jakarta Stock Exchange, SCTV, RCTI, Sheraton Media Hotel, Mid Plaza Int, Hotel, Mulia Hotel,

Unilever, Nestle, Kedaung Group, Siemens, Tetra Pak, Martha Tilaar, Bridge Builder, PT Praweda Cipta Karsa Informatika, IBM, Metro Data, Senayan City, etc.

Institutions: Ministry of Social Affairs, National Democratic Institute (NDI), Kiwanis Club of Jakarta, Ministry of Law and Human Rights, Ministry of National Education, Mercy Corp International, Childhope Asia- Philippines, Ford Foundation, Asia Foundation, AMIC Singapore, AAFLI, ICC Paris, Asian Development Bank (ADB), International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC), Kokyo naki Kodomotachi (KnK) Japan, etc.

2. Participation in the Economic and Social Council:
   - Attended the PrepComm IV World Summit on Sustainable Development, Nusa Dua Bali, Indonesia, 27 May – 7 June 2002
   - Attended the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August – 4 September 2002
   - Attended the United Nations General Assembly Special Session – World Fit for Children, New York, 8-11 May 2002

3. Cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies

ILO/IPEC – Program (pilot project) on:

1. **The Prevention of Child Trafficking for Labor and Sexual Exploitation**: in Indramayu (West Java), February 2004 – November 2005. Target: Children under 18 years, especially girls. To give education in the Community Learning Center (CLC).
2. **Combating Exploitation of Child Domestic Workers (CDW) in Karawang and Bekasi (West Java).** 2003 – (2006). Target: CDW aged 15 – 18 in a community learning center (CLC).
3. **Tackling Children Involved in Drugs Trafficking through School-based Approach in** Duren Sawit, East Jakarta March 2005 – (September 2006)

UNICEF – Program on:

1. **Writing Competition for Junior and Senior High School Students in Indonesia.** 2004 – (2006)
2. **Workshop on Child Participation** in 18 provinces, together with some International NGOs and National NGOs, 2005
3. **Advocacy and Policy Making on Child-Friendly School** in 11 provinces 2005 – (2006).

UNESCO – Program on: **Training for Teachers and Students on Media Literacy,** Jakarta, December 8-9, 2004

4. Other relevant activities:
   (i) Indonesian Child Welfare Foundation actively doing activity to promote United Nations Conventions on the Right of the Child
   (ii) Activity to promote concept of Child Friendly City that is UNICEF Initiative, since may 13, 2004 – present

Those both activities were carried out in collaboration with the Ministry of Women Empowerment.

3. INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR RESEARCH ON WOMEN (ICRW) (ECOSOC General Consultative Status since 1998)

PART I. Introduction

Since 1976, the International Center for Research on Women (ICRW) has worked toward the interconnected goals of building the power and participation of women and ending poverty throughout the developing world. ICRW's groundbreaking research identifies solutions to improve the lives of women and girls, and our advocacy with experts, leaders and policymakers turns those insights into action. Our research helps organizations base their decisions in reality, and provides guidance and "actionable insight" to strengthen their programs. We work with women and whole communities, partnering with other organizations to bring about social change in the following areas: adolescence, HIV and AIDS, nutrition and food security, poverty reduction, reproductive health and population, violence against women and women's rights. ICRW is headquartered in Washington, D.C. and has a country office in New Delhi, India, as well as project offices in Andhra Pradesh, India, and Kampala, Uganda.

PART II. Contribution of ICRW to the work of the United Nations.

i) Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council. Beginning in 2004, ICRW's President, Geeta Rao Gupta, has served at the invitation of the Secretary General as Co-Chair of the High Level Panel on Youth Employment, ILO, and helped to develop gender-responsive recommendations for fostering employment opportunities for young women and men. In addition, from 2002 to 2005 ICRW participated in a number of United Nations meetings and conferences.

1. **Roundtable on "Education and Literacy," organized by UNESCO and UNICEF** at the High Level Segment of ECOSOC on 29 June 2005 at United Nations New York. ICRW's President was a speaker and panelist.

2. **"Informal Interactive Hearings of the General Assembly with NGOs, civil society organizations and the private sector,"** United Nations New York 23-24 June 2005. ICRW's President contributed a statement to the Hearings (A/RES/59/291) on the seven priorities identified by the Millennium Project task force as essential for achieving the goal of gender equality and the empowerment of women.

3. **Roundtable on "Eradication of Poverty and Hunger," organized by FAO/IFAD/WFP** on 16 March 2005 at the UN New York preparatory event for the High Level Segment of ECOSOC. ICRW's President was a speaker and panelist.

4. **"Women and AIDS U.S. Tour: Empower Women, Save Lives,"** organized by the Global Coalition on Women and AIDS, UNAIDS, in New York, Chicago and Washington DC, 2 -8 March 2005. ICRW's President was a leader and speaker.

5. **"Sixteenth UNAIDS' Program Coordinating Board (PCB) Meeting, Montego Bay, Jamaica, 14 December 2004**. ICRW's President presented a paper on *Women, Girls and HIV: The paradox of low risk and high vulnerability.*

ii) Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies. ICRW has undertaken numerous projects in cooperation with United Nations bodies. On December 22, 2003, the General Assembly of the United Nations asked the Secretary-General to conduct an in-depth study of the forms, consequences and costs of violence against women. Acting in its consultative status to the United Nations, ICRW wrote a chapter of the report for the Division for the Advancement of Women which was tasked with preparation of the study. ICRW's chapter, "Forms, Consequences and Costs of Violence Against Women," highlights the continuum of violence against women throughout their life span, the various types of violence perpetrated by the family, community and the state, the implications of violence for women's development, the economic and social costs of violence against women, and the barriers for governments in acknowledging and addressing violence against women.

From 2002 to 2005, ICRW's President served as Coordinator of the Task Force on Education and Gender for the Millennium Project established by the UN Secretary-General and the UNDP Administrator. She is co-author with two ICRW staff of the MDG Task Force 3 report ***Taking Action: Achieving Gender Equality and Empowering Women.*** Working with experts from around the world, ICRW identified seven priorities for meeting these goals, presented them to the United Nations General Assembly, and succeeded in having all seven adopted at the September 2005 World Summit. Women's organizations worldwide now have a mandate to hold their governments accountable for keeping their promise to improve women's lives.

ICRW works as a convening agency of the Global Coalition for Women and AIDS (sponsored by UNAIDS), taking the lead on the issue of property and inheritance rights for women and girls. In partnership with the Global Coalition on Women and AIDS and the UN Food and Agriculture Organization, ICRW implemented the "Reducing Women and Girls' Vulnerability to HIV/AIDS through Strengthening their Property and Inheritance Rights Small Grants Program." The property rights program provides one-year, $25,000 grants to organizations in Kenya, Malawi, Rwanda, South Africa, and Zimbabwe to examine the links between HIV and AIDS and women and girls' property and inheritance rights; to test and document strategies to strengthen those linkages; and to share results.

ICRW works with United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) to determine the costs of violence against women. In collaboration with UNFPA's Gender and Human Rights Branch and with technical input from UNFPA's New York office, Country Support Teams, Geographical Divisions and Country Offices as well as other in-country organizations, ICRW is conducting a quantitative and qualitative study to estimate the costs of domestic violence in Bangladesh, Morocco and Uganda using methodologies developed by ICRW with UNFPA funding in 2004. The goal of the project is to: a) pilot a replicable methodology for effectively estimating the costs of domestic violence at household and community levels; and b) build the capacity of the in-country partner organizations to develop estimates of direct and indirect costs of violence against women. In addition to developing estimates in the three countries, ICRW will disseminate a manual on the methodology and an advocacy booklet

to raise awareness of the model, its applicability and pilot study results. While there are numerous challenges to costing the impact of violence in developing countries, it is a critical step towards galvanizing country support for address violence against women, developing realistic strategies and ensuring allocation of adequate resources.

iii) Initiatives undertaken by ICRW in support of internationally agreed development goals. The following are selected highlights of ICRW's work to support the Millennium Development Goals:

Reducing malnutrition and hunger: ICRW is the secretariat of the Nutrition and Gender Initiative. The Initiative creates strategies to reduce malnutrition throughout the life-cycle by identifying pathways to improve birth weights in infants, prevent malnutrition in infancy, and improve the nutritional status of women and adolescent girls. The strategies have a strong gender focus and seek to understand how to empower women by enhancing their roles, social status and decision-making capabilities and how this can lead to improvements in nutritional status. The Initiative works in West Africa and South Asia, both areas of great need.

Improving reproductive health services for girls: ICRW has initiated multiple programs to address young girls' lack of decision making power and access to basic and reproductive health services. In India and Nepal, ICRW tested participatory approaches to improve adolescent health and well-being. Based on these findings, ICRW formed the Development Initiative on Supporting Healthy Adolescents (DISHA) in collaboration with six partners in Bihar and Jharkhand, India. DISHA has designed and implemented innovative programs in over 200 communities to address health, socio-cultural and economic factors that have an impact on youth reproductive health.

Ending child marriage: Drawing on its extensive research findings, ICRW has successfully brought to the attention of the United States Department of State's Senior Coordinator for Women's Issues the multiple ways in which the marriage of young girls violates their human rights, and also impedes economic and social development. At ICRW's urging, in March 2005 a State Department Cable was issued to all U.S. Embassies and Missions requiring them to report on the scope and consequences of child marriage in their countries. This All Departments and Consulates Cable was the first ever focused on the issue of child marriage. State Department staff in 178 missions have responded to the cable, with 70 indicating that child marriage is an unaddressed problem. This has prompted the State Department to begin to report on child marriage as a human rights violation in its annual country reports, which will greatly heighten its visibility and hasten a response.

Reducing the stigma of HIV and AIDS: In 2003, ICRW's work on HIV/AIDS-related stigma and discrimination led to the design and introduction of a stigma-reduction toolkit published in collaboration with the Academy for Educational Development. The toolkit is a leading tool in ICRW's efforts to field test and validate stigma indicators; it created a framework for assessing the impact and effectiveness of existing stigma reduction programs, provided recommendations for interventions, and aided in the creation of new policies and programs worldwide. Created for use at the community level, the toolkit has been distributed widely in many African countries, and has since been scaled up, translated in several languages and adapted for use in other world regions.

4. THE INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS (ICS)
(Special Consultative Status since 1970)

The vision of the International College of Surgeons is to improve the lives of patients around the world through the development and education of our members and the advancement of the field. The four missions of the International College of Surgeons are to teach, to conduct research, to communicate, and to serve as leaders in fulfilling the vision. Concurrently, three goals are to be fulfilled, including functioning as a single global entity, exploring medical and general health knowledge frontiers, and encouraging participation of all members. The International College of Surgeons was founded in 1935 and is open to all nationalities, races, and creeds. The International College of Surgeons has approximately 8,000 general and surgical specialist members in over 100 countries. Members are organized into 60 national sections, which are further organized into six global federations. The International College of Surgeons is in official relations with the World Health Organization as a Non-Governmental Organization and is the only global surgical society in official relations with the World Health Organization.

A significant part of the United Nations activities of the International College of Surgeons is associated with the World Health Organization. Other activities with the United Nations include the Anti-Tobacco conference at the United Nations Headquarters in New York City during the period of time of this quadrennial report by the International Executive Director of the International College of Surgeons.

Part II

The International Executive Director and the Official Representative to the World Health Organization of the International College of Surgeons, plus other representatives of the Governance of the International College of Surgeons attended the 114th, 112th, 110th, and 108th Sessions of the World Health Assembly in Geneva, Switzerland, during the years 2005, 2004, 2003, and 2002, respectively. Further, the International Executive Director and the Official Representative to the World Health Organization of the International College of Surgeons, plus other representatives of the Governance of the International College of Surgeons, attended the 115th, 114th, 113th, 112th, 111th, 110th, 109th, and 108th Sessions of the Executive Board of the World Health Organization in Geneva, Switzerland, during the years 2002, 2003, 2004, and 2005, during the months of January and May.

Immediately following the Tsunami in Asia, the International College of Surgeons was on the active list of the World Health Organization resources to provide surgeons to areas of need.

In January, 2005, the International Executive Director directly conferred with the African Regional Director of the World Health Organization to commence planning of a jointly sponsored meeting by the International College of Surgeons and the African Regional Office of the World Health Organization in Brazzaville, Republic of Congo, with decision makers and policy makers from public health and surgery departments of approximately 20 Sub-Saharan African countries to attend. The International Executive Director of the International College of Surgeons visited the African Regional Office in Brazzaville, Republic of Congo, in May, 2006, to further this planning. The objective of this jointly sponsored meeting is to improve health care in these respective areas. The result of this

planning initiated in the time period covered by this quadrennial report will most probably be a joint meeting in Brazzaville in November, 2006.

In reference to initiatives undertaken by the International College of Surgeons in support of internationally agreed development goals, the activities of the International College of Surgeons have primarily been focused in the area of improving and assisting in health care delivery in less developed countries of the world. The specific activities, as examples of an overall number of teaching and direct surgical actives, include surgical teaching teams, generally sponsored by specific Sections of the International College of Surgeons, and the granting of scholarships to younger surgeons who desire to pursue specialty training in other countries. A description of some examples follows.

The Switzerland Section of the International College of Surgeons has sent surgical teaching teams to Mongolia in 2002, 2003, 2004, and 2005. These Switzerland Section teams provide surgical instruction in the operating theater, teaching outside of the operating theater, and the provision of medical supplies that the team takes to Ulaanboatar, Mongolia. The Switzerland Section surgical team also offers one or two scholarships each year to young surgeons in Mongolia to travel to Switzerland to gain additional specialty training in one or more medical facilities in Switzerland.

A second example is the Holland Section of the International College of Surgeons sending a team to Malawi in 2005 with a team member being present in Malawi for approximately three months and assisting in routine surgical care in an area where physicians and surgeons are in short supply and therefore needed.

The International College of Surgeons also assists the World Health Organization in the area of publications sponsored by the World Health Organization. For example, the First Edition and Second Edition of *Surgery at the District Hospital* were edited by the Official Representative to the World Health Organization from the International College of Surgeons during the period of this quadrennial report. In addition, a Past World President of the International College of Surgeons has served as Editor of *One Day Surgery* and will support World Health Organization initiatives to publish updated Editions of *One Day Surgery*.

In addition, in general support of the United Nations' Millennium Development Goals, the International College of Surgeons sponsored five regional global scientific and medical Congresses in 2003 and five such Congresses in 2005. A World scientific and medical Congress was sponsored by the International College of Surgeons in 2002 Taipei (Taiwan, Province of China), and in 2004 in Quito (Ecuador). All of these regional and world scientific and medical Congresses focus on various specialties of health care delivery in diverse parts of the world.

The *Journal of International Surgery*, the official Journal of the International College of Surgeons has a global readership and is delivered in both print and electronic formats. This Journal supplements the efforts of the International College of Surgeons in addressing the Millennium Development Goals of the United Nations. In addition, the acclaimed website of the International College of Surgeons, www.icsglobal.org, is visited monthly by persons in over 100 countries of the world and this website provides the opportunity and means to health care providers to seek assistance from the International College of Surgeons.

Given that the governing leadership of the International College of Surgeons is representative of all parts of the world, as required by the Constitution and Bylaws of the International College of Surgeons, understanding the health care needs of the world and providing humanitarian service to all parts of the world has occurred during the period of this quadrennial report.

5. WORLD INFORMATION TRANSFER (WIT)

(General Consultative Status granted in 2002)

PART I: INTRODUCTION

1-Aims and Purposes of WIT"

World Information Transfer, Inc., (WIT) is a not-for-profit, non-governmental organization in General Consultative Status (2002) with the United Nations, promoting environmental health and literacy. In 1987, inspired by the Chernobyl nuclear tragedy, WIT was formed in recognition of the pressing need to provide accurate actionable information about our deteriorating global environment and its effect on human health to opinion leaders and concerned citizens around the world.

2-WIT's Main Courses of Action:

- *World Ecology Report (WER).* Published since 1989, the *World Ecology Report* is a quarterly digest of critical issues in health and environment, produced in Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish and Ukrainian, is distributed to thousands of citizens throughout the developing and developed world.
- *Health and Environment: Global Partners for Global Solutions Conference.* Since 1992, WIT has convened a premier forum for the presentation of scientific papers by international experts on the growing clinical evidence supporting the link between degrading environments and diminished human health. Conferences were convened annually at UN headquarters in New York between 2002-05, and the scientific papers presented are available on WIT's web site.
- *Health and Development CD ROM Library Project.* Produced in Romania, in conjunction with our member organization, Humaninfo, this project consists of a library of CDs each of which focuses on a subject within the overall topic of Development and Health information and offers one bridge across the "digital divide." The project is continuous with future topics being developed. Between 2002 through 2005 we have developed CD ROMS on HIV/AIDS in partnership with UNAIDS, Gender and HIV/AIDS in partnership with United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), and the country specific CD ROM for schools in Ukraine has been distributed in western Ukraine.
- *Humanitarian Aid.* WIT provides humanitarian relief to hospitals, schools and orphanages in areas devastated by environmental degradation. Our shipments have included medical equipment for pediatric medical facilities, computer and telephone systems, clothing, toys, and school supplies for gifted children.
- *Internship Program.* WIT provides year round internships for young people studying international diplomacy, international health, and sustainable development. Since 2002, this program has expanded to include students from Canada, China, India, Kenya, Germany in addition to the United States of America.

- *www.worldinfo.org* . WIT's web site provides up to date science based information on the relationship between human health and the natural environment, including the papers from the WIT's annual conference, the archived *World Ecology Reports*, and our new *Ecology Enquirer,* an e-newsletter written by our Interns targeted to young people.
- *International POPs* Elimination Project (IPEP)* . In implementing the Stockholm Convention, as member of the International POPs Elimination Network (IPEN) Steering Committee, WIT's regional director for Africa, based in Egypt, became a regional project hub for IPEN's two year International POPs Elimination Project (IPEP) (2004 and 2005. *Persistent Organic Pollutants.
- *Centers for Health & Environment.* The Centers aim to promote research and education for Eastern Europe, Center located in Lviv, Ukraine, and the Middle East, Center located in Beirut, Lebanon.

In 2002, World Information Transfer was reclassified to General Consultative Status.

PART II. CONTRIBUTION OF THE ORGANIZATION TO THE WORK OF THE UN

1- Participation in work of the Economic and Social Council (Ecosoc), subsidiary bodies and/or major conferences: **2002:** ***The World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD)*** (Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August - 4 September). WIT's Regional Director for Africa attended the Summit; distributed World Ecology Reports and relevant CD Roms from our Digitized library project (see above); participated in NGO Forum. ***CSD-10 acting as the Preparatory Committee to the WSSD***, PrepCom-II, 28 January - 8 February 2002, New York, PrepCom-III, 25 March - 5 April, New York. Four WIT Representatives attended each prepcom and distributed relevant materials. ***General Assembly Special Session on Children*** (New York, 8-10 May). WIT distributed findings from its *Health and Environment Conference* on the theme, "Childhood Antecedents to Adult Illness," (see below) to official delegations as per arrangement with Chair of Special Session. ***Second World Assembly on Ageing*** *(*Madrid, Spain, 8-12 April). WIT organized the Side Event titled: *"Communicating The Health Impact to Older Persons in Eastern Europe of Regional Environmental Damage*, Sponsored by the Government of Ukraine. ***Forty-sixth Session of the Commission of the Status of Women*** (New York , 4-15 March). Four WIT representatives attended. **2003:** ***The World Summit on the Information Society,*** (Geneva, Switzerland, 10-12 December*). Two* WIT Representatives attended; participated in NGO Forum and relevant caucus on health information. ***Forty-seventh Session of the Commission of the Status of Women*** (New York , 3-14 March). Four WIT Representatives attended. ***Commission on Sustainable Development – 11th Session*** (28 April - 9 May). _ Four WIT Representatives attended. **2004:** ***Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues - Third Session*** (New York, 10-21 May). Three WIT representatives attended and distributed *World Ecology Reports*. ***Commission on Sustainable Development - 12th Session*** (New York, 14-30 April), WIT's *13th International Conference on Health and Environment: Global Partners for Global Solutions* theme: "Linking Conflict with Environment & Population", 29th and 30th April, was an official Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) Parallel Event. The conference was co-sponsored by the Government of Croatia, the Government of Ukraine, the World Health Organization, UNAIDS, Physicians Weekly and Walden Media, and in collaboration with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). ***Global Forum on Internet Governance*** (New York, 25-27 March). Two WIT representatives attended . ***Forty-Eighth Session of the Commission of the Status***

of Women (New York , 1-12 March). Four WIT representatives attended. **2005:** ***General Assembly High Level Meeting on HIV/AIDS*** (New York, UN Headquarters, 2 June) Five WIT representatives attended and distributed 2 issues of our *World Ecology Reports* , Summer 2004 Created for the GA High Level Meeting, and Fall Winter 2004 (Conference Issue) ,and distributed HIV/AIDs CD Roms created in partnership with UNAIDS. ***Economic and Social Council*** (NY, 29 June - 27 July) ***High Level Segment, 1 July:*** WIT's Chair read Statement on health MDGs. ***United Nations Forum on Forests (fifth session)*** (New York, UN Headquarters, 16-27 May). Five WIT representatives attended and distributed *World Ecology Report (Winter 2003*) focused on sustainable forests. ***Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (fourth session***): "Millennium Development Goals and indigenous peoples" (New York, UN Headquarters, 16-27 May). Five WIT representatives attended and distributed *World Ecology Report* issue focused on health related MDGs. ***The 2005 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons*** (NPT) (New York, UN Headquarters, 2-27 May) WIT sent 3 representatives. ***Commission on Sustainable Development - 13th Session*** (New York, 11 to 22 April). ***Side Event:*** "Water, Health, and Environmental Security," 12 April, United Nations, New York,, organized by World Information Transfer, co-Sponsored by: Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations, Environmental Change and Security Project, Woodrow Wilson Center, Washington, DC, Stakeholder Forum, San Sebastian, Spain. ***Beijing +10 Conference: Forty-Ninth Session of the Commission of the Status of Women*** (New York, 28 February-11 March) WIT sent 4 representatives.

2-Other UN Meetings: ***Strategic Arrangements for International Chemicals Management (SAICM), International Forum on Chemical Safety (IFCS).*** **SAICM:** an approach agreed to at the 2002 Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development aims to ensure that, by the year 2020, chemicals are produced and used in ways that minimize significant adverse impacts on the environment and human health. Working with the International POPs Elimination Network (IPEN) and as member of IPEN Steering Committee, WIT's Regional Director for Africa attended the 3 SAICM PrepCom meetings: Bangkok, November 2003; Nairobi, October 2004; Vienna, September 2005. Working with the International POPs Elimination Network (IPEN) and as member of IPEN Steering Committee, WIT sent its Regional Director for Africa to the ***IFCS Forum IV***, Bangkok, Thailand, 1-7 November 2003.

3-Contribution to UN bodies at Headquarters and in the field: ***WIT's Annual Conferences on Health and Environment***: ***Global Partners for Global Solutions*** held at UN headquarters in New York.

2005-14th International Conference, theme ***" Bridging Policies for Action on Millennium Development Goals***, 28 April; co-sponsored by the Government of Croatia and the Government of Ukraine, in collaboration with the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) and supported by the UN Missions of Bahamas, Fiji, Lithuania, Serbia and Montenegro, Tanzania, Timor-Leste, Thailand and Uganda. ***2004-13th International Conference***, theme: "***Linking Conflict with Environment & Population,***" 29th –30th April. This Conference was an Official Parallel Event of CSD 13. The conference was co-sponsored by the Government of Croatia, the Government of Ukraine, World Health Organization, UNAIDS, Physicians Weekly and Walden Media, and organized in collaboration with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). ***2003-12th International Conference***,

theme, *"Water and Health: Problems and Solutions"*, 24th –25th April, co--sponsored by the Government of Ukraine in cooperation with the United Nations Environment Programme and UNICEF. ***2002-11th International Conference***, theme, *"Childhood Antecedents to Adult Illness"* 25th-26th April, co-sponsored by Government of Jamaica Government of Ukraine, American Academy of Pediatrics. Proceedings of this Conference fed into the General Assembly Special Session on Children (UN Headquarters, NY, 6-8 May).

4 - Initiatives Undertaken by WIT in support of internationally agreed development goals, in particular the Millennium Development Goals.

All **conference topics** and scientific findings published in **World Ecology Reports**, archived on www.worldinfo.org, reflect WIT's mission to provide scientifically based information for development policy decisions. WIT has used the Millennium Development Goals as main topics for our annual International Conference on Health and Environment from 2002 through 2005; MDGs have formed the basis for our **CD ROMs** on HIV/AIDS developed in partnership with UNAIDS and UNIFEM. **Publication:** *Human and Environmental Security: An Agenda for Change*, Earthscan. London, 2005. WIT's Chair and its Executive Director wrote the chapter on "Securing a Healthier World."